

Oundle

FOR ORGANISTS



It hardly seems a moment since, more than 25 years back, comparatively carefree and in a buoyant economic climate — we somehow persuaded entrepreneurial spirits to embark in a hot-air balloon. Yet that first Oundle International Organ Week was not so ramshackle; from day one, Organists and Festival elements interacted with compelling synergy.

Essentially, it's still all the same today — and development and growth, nurtured by ever growing support from young organists and partners, have brought us to pole position: a crazy one-week-in-one-small-place nucleus has exploded into a multi-faceted arts organisation.

Oundle for Organists has become a unique international brand, with courses throughout the year all over the UK and abroad. By now, some 2,000 young organists have attended Oundle courses, whether in Oundle or elsewhere, and have raved about them. The keynote is inspiration — never competition. The student age range is 9-29 — whilst we also now offer an adult's weekend in October, and a welcome to all our courses for Observers of any age.

Core curriculum has become the preparation of teenagers for university organ scholarships: our Prospective Organ Scholars course typically attracts over 40 aspirants. Recruitment for the summer courses at Oundle and the autumn Advanced Academy in Toulouse is served by Get Ahead! taster days around the UK, and the early-stages weekend Pulling Out The Stops held every Easter: 35 course days during 2009, in Oundle, Oxford, Cheltenham, Newcastle, Guildford and Toulouse.

We know that money is tight this year. Don't be deterred! We aim to offer great value for money, and where necessary, bursaries and advice, to bridge a funding gap.

Oundle —
it **is** the name young organists need to know!

James Parsons
Oundle for Organists

in partnership with

RCO

The Royal College of Organists
Patron: HM The Queen



2009 at a glance

25
YEARS

Get Ahead! Inspiration Days *

(all standards age 9-19, and a welcome for organists of all ages, especially on 10 January)

10 January in Newcastle-upon-Tyne

21 February at Charterhouse near Guildford

2 May at Cheltenham (as guests of Cheltenham College)

with celebrity recital by Thomas Trotter

3-5 April

Pulling Out The Stops at Oundle *

for 'early stages' organists, and pianists who want to play the pipe organ, age 10-15

with celebrity recital at St John's College, Cambridge

by Scott Farrell on Saturday 4 April 7.30pm

25 May (Bank Holiday Monday)

RCO National Performance Festival for Young Organists in Oxford

13-19 July

Exploring New Repertoire at Oundle

alongside Oundle International Festival
(age 14-17)

13-19 July

Style & Technique at Oundle

alongside Oundle International Festival
(age 16-22)

21-26 July

Prospective Organ Scholars in Oxford

(age 15-19)

14-19 September

Oundle for Organists à Toulouse

(Advanced Academy for conservatoire/ university level — a must! for newly-elected organ scholars)

23-25 October

OFO/St Giles/RCO Adult Organists Weekend
at Oundle

*ask for separate leaflet

Oundle for Organists,

The Creed Chapel, Ashton, Oundle,

Northamptonshire PE8 5LD UK

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www.oundlefestival.org.uk

Honorary Patrons

Maxwell Hutchinson, Sir David Lumsden, Simon Preston,

Dame Gillian Weir DBE, Sir David Willcocks CBE, MC

Oundle for Organists reserves the right to make any changes to this printed information that may become necessary.